

On the Complexity of Inductive Definitions

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Abstract

We study the complexity of computable and Σ_1^0 inductive definitions of sets of natural numbers. For we example, we show how to assign natural indices to monotone Σ_1^0 -definitions and we use these to calculate the complexity of the set of all indices of monotone Σ_1^0 -definitions which are computable. We also examine the complexity of a new type of inductive definition which we call *weakly finitary* monotone inductive definitions. Applications are given in proof theory and in logic programming.